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in this volume 'guesses' is the right word." A better arrangement and a clearer presentation of the data would have made the book more readable than it now is. The author appears to have overlooked the fact that an analysis of family incomes without an accompanying discussion of prices, family budgets, etc., is of no great value in deciding any question regarding the welfare of a people.

IRA B. CROSS.

Stanford University.

Mitchell, C. A. *Science and the Criminal.* Pp. xiv, 240. Price, \$2.50. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1911.

Devon, James. *The Criminal and the Community.* Pp. xxi, 348. Price, \$1.75. New York: John Lane Company, 1912.

The almost simultaneous appearance of these two volumes from contemporary English authors serves to reveal the extent of the new interest in criminality which for so many years has been rather the concern of continental writers.

The former is a contribution to the literature dealing with the general subject of criminal procedure. Its specific field is that of the detection and identification of criminals. The author advocates the employment of expert detectives immediately upon the discovery of serious crimes and not after the first traces are obscured by the untrained policeman. The chief methods of identification discussed are the use of photographs, anthropometry and dactyloscopy, the last mentioned being especially valuable in the case of violence. Several pages of finger prints are given as illustrations. The larger part of the book is devoted to the detection of forgery. Here he discusses the work of handwriting experts, the use of the microscope and chemical ink tests in detecting alterations, the examination of charred fragments, the forgery of bank notes, etc. He does not regard the identification of criminals by means of handwriting as very satisfactory, citing numerous instances where discrepancies have occurred. His discussion of heredity and handwriting hardly carries conviction to the mind of the reader and the illustrations offered seem rather to disprove than to prove his theory. Chapters are also devoted to the "Identification of Human Blood and Hair" and "Adulteration of Food."

The general method used throughout the book is to present the material in concrete form through the description of numerous trials of criminals and many notable trials are discussed with criticisms upon both positive expert testimony and circumstantial evidence. This method adds to the readableness of the volume, but scarcely enhances its value as a scientific treatise. As might be expected from a Scotland Yard official, the illustrations are all from English sources. It is, nevertheless, of great value to the American student and should be in every library of criminology.

The latter volume deals more particularly with the material of criminology and penology. Only one chapter is devoted to procedure. It is original and matter of fact, and abounds in practical observations that

are of immense value. It is to be regretted, however, that the author should feel an antagonism, which he expresses often in language bordering on satire, against the scientific work of criminologists, which he does not seem adequately to comprehend. This attitude is particularly manifest in the first chapter on *The Criminal and the Criminologists*, while the second chapter on *Heredity and Crime*, reveals a lack of biological training on the part of the writer which disqualifies him largely for making valuable criticisms in this field. The lack of English investigation in scientific criminology is not compensated for by flings at continental theorists. That there is much to be criticised in the claims of the positive school no one will question, but arguments are best answered by arguments and little is gained in the way of clearness by mere references to them as "pseudo-scientific jargon."

The positive discussions contained in Parts II and III, on *Common Causes in the Causation of Crime and the Treatment of Criminals*, are enlightening and extremely valuable and here the author finds himself most at home and for which his training as medical officer in the prison at Glasgow for many years has best qualified him. We cannot agree with Professor Murison in his introduction that "the book is most illuminating and the wisest that has ever been written on the subject," but it is a book to be read by every student of the science,—one in which much valuable information has been packed, and one which will prove a mental stimulant even if one does not agree with all his conclusions.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Morgan, S. A. *The History of Parliamentary Taxation in England.* Pp. xvii, 317. Price, \$2.00. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., 1911.

When David A. Wells established the prizes, one of which has been awarded to this essay, he laid down six "thou shalt not" commandments, in the following language: "No subject shall be selected for competitive writing or investigation and no essay shall be considered which in any way advocates or defends the spoilation of property under form or process of law; or the restriction of Commerce in times of peace by Legislation, except for moral or sanitary purposes; or the enactment of usury laws; or the impairment of contracts by the debasement of coin; or the issue and use by Government of irredeemable notes or promises to pay intended to be used as currency and as a substitute for money; or which defends the endowment of such 'paper,' 'notes' and 'promises to pay' with the legal tender quality." Although these provisions of the founder's will suggest a desire to establish an entail in certain economic views, yet it is clear that if essays like this are not in contravention of the rules the entail is not dangerous.

Of these essays Professor Theodore Clarke Smith in a preface to the present volume says: "Since it," (the competition), "is confined to students and graduates" (of not more than three years' standing) "of a college which offers no post-graduate instruction, it is not intended to require original